

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 MCE-00 AID-05 L-03
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /074 W
-----130070 071850Z /47

R 070941Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0610
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
HQUSAF WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 25872

SECDEF FOR DSAA-TC, HQUSAF FOR LEF, CINCPAC FOR J4,
CINCPACAF FOR XPK/LGXI

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, TH
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR LOA FOR C-130 AIRCRAFT

1. (C) THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED AN LOA FOR THREE (3) C-130H AIRCRAFT. THEY ARE CAREFULLY CONSIDERING REPLACEMENT OR SUPPLEMENTING AIRCRAFT FOR THEIR AGING C-123B/K FLEET. THE ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE (RTAF) IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT MAINTAINING A VIABLE AIRLIFT CAPABILITY IN THE 1980'S. THE RTAF BELIEVES THAT THE C-130 AIRCRAFT IS NEEDED TO ENHANCE THEIR AIRLIFT CAPABILITY FOR LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION AND AIR DROP OPERATIONS IN MEETING THE PERCEIVED COUNTERINSURGENCY THREAT.

2. THE RTAF PLANS TO USE THE SHARE OF FY78 FMS CREDITS ALLOCATED TO IT BY THE RTG FOR THIS PURCHASE. HOWEVER, THE RTAF SHARE OF CREDITS WILL BE INSUFFICIENT TO
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PURCHASE THREE (3) C-130'S. THE RTAF HAS ADVISED THAT A COMBINATION OF OUT-YEAR FMS CREDIT AND CASH, AS NECESSARY, WOULD BE USED FOR THE PURCHASE.

3. P&B DATA FOR THE THREE (3) C-130H'S WERE PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED IN MAY, 1977. THE RTAF LATER REQUESTED AN LOA FOR THE PURCHASE. HOWEVER, DUE TO BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS,

THEY WERE FORCED TO CANCEL THE REQUEST.

4. WE SUPPORT THIS RENEWAL OF A REQUEST FOR LOA AND
SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFM
400-3, PROVIDED BY THE RTAF TO BE USED IN LOA PREPARATION.

A. THREE (3) C-130H'S IN STANDARD CONFIGURATION WITH
NORMAL PRODUCTION LEAD TIME.

B. OPERATIONS CONCEPT: 50 FLYING HOURS/MONTH/AIRCRAFT
FROM ONE OPERATING BASE.

C. MAINTENANCE CONCEPT: ORGANIZATION, INTERMEDIATE AND
DEPOT LEVEL MAINTENANCE IN COUNTRY WITH AN 18-MONTH
INITIAL SPARE PARTS LAY-IN.

D. SIX (6) SPARE ENGINES.

E. CONTRACTOR ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES (CETS)
REQUIRED FOR THREE (3) PEOPLE WITH A SPECIALTY IN AIRFRAME,
ENGINES, AND AVIONICS FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR.

F. TRAINING: CONUS-FOUR (4) PILOTS. TWELVE (12)
MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL WITH C-123 AND C-47 EXPERIENCE TO
BE TRAINED IN ORGANIZATION AND INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
MAINTENANCE. NUMBER OF MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL WITH AFSC
ARE AS FOLLOWS: ONE A/C MAIN OFF - AFSC 4343, THREE
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A/C MAIN TECH - AFSC 43171/43174/42172, TWO JET ENGINE
TECH - AFSC 43270, TWO AUTO PILOT TECH - AFSC 42373,
TWO ELECTRICAL/INSTRUMENT TECH - AFSC 42370, AND TWO
AVIONIC TECH - AFSC WILL BE PROVIDED LATER. IN-COUNTRY
MTT OF ONE INSTRUCTOR PILOT FOR ONE YEAR. THE FLYING
TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE AT DON MUANG, RTAFB, BUT OTHER
MAJOR RTAFB'S WILL ALSO BE USED. NAV AIDS AVAILABLE ARE
NDB, VOR, TACAN, DME, AND ILS. ADDITIONALLY, THE RTAF
NEEDS OPTIONS FOR CETS PERSONNEL AND THE IP WITH QUARTERS
AND TRANSPORTATION BEING PROVIDED BY THE RTAF OR NOT BEING
PROVIDED BY THE RTAF.

G. INSURANCE WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE RTAF.

H. QUALITY ASSURANCE VIA USAF.

I. AIRCRAFT DELIVERY SHOULD SPECIFY OPTIONS OF SURFACE OR
FERRY, WITH DELIVERY BY THE USG.

5. THE RTAF ANTICIPATES LOA ACCEPTANCE 75 DAYS AFTER THE
OFFER DATE. ALSO, THE RTAF DESIRES NOTIFICATION OF STATE/
DEFENSE APPROVAL AND DATE THE LOA WILL BE FORWARDED.

ABRAMOWITZ

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Message Attributes

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